



# National Congress Bulletin

APRIL 1953 PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS • CHICAGO 5 • VOL. 20, NO. 8

## Dear P. T. A. Presidents:

FOR some months now each of you has been working on our Action Program for Better Schools, applying it to your local situation. The success of that program, as you know, depends on *you* and on the time, planning, and effort put into it by the members of your P.T.A. Our public schools are locally controlled, and their financial support is largely from local sources. From the local community must come the interest and concern and support that will preserve and improve them. From the P.T.A.—from the P.T.A. of which you are president—must come the stimulus to a continuing community effort to improve your school.

• As you studied the Action Program, no doubt you noticed how much of it involves cooperation with school officials—with school boards or committees and with superintendents, principals, and other officials who administer the schools. P.T.A. relationships with school

administrators are very important. What can we do to make them constructive relationships?

First of all, each of you might ask and answer the following questions: How well do our members understand the relationship of the P.T.A. to the school board (or committee)? To the school superintendent? To the school principal? Do the school board members, the superintendent, and the principal understand the philosophy and policies of the P.T.A.? What is their attitude toward the P.T.A.? What further understanding of each other's aims and functions is necessary to enable us to cooperate more effectively?

• Any partnership will be pleasanter and more profitable if the partners define their goals, understand each other's role in working toward them, determine the area of mutual effort, and mark the boundaries of their respective functions and responsibilities.

• Recently in speeches and conferences at conventions of three important national associations I have had the opportunity to present and interpret the P.T.A. role to school people. I also asked them what they expected of us and how they thought we could be more helpful. These organizations were the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, the National School Boards Association, and the American Association of School Administrators (A.A.S.A.).

• Four vice-presidents of the National Congress and twenty-six presidents of state congresses shared with me the responsibility for representing you at the A.A.S.A. convention. We participated in a National Congress-A.A.S.A. joint session on the subject, "The Superintendent and the P.T.A.," and in various clinics and section meetings. We put ourselves in your position as a local president—all of us have been local presidents. We put your point of view before the school people, and we asked them the questions that we thought you were interested in. I asked them quite frankly, for example, why some administrators still resist cooperation with lay groups, and if they thought the curriculum was the business of the superintendent and his staff *only*.

• I urged the school board members in their relationships with the P.T.A.: (1) to keep the channels of communication open; (2) to go beyond the formal channels and develop personal relationships by joining the P.T.A. and serving on its committees; (3) to understand P.T.A. philosophy and policies; (4) to avail themselves of the services of the P.T.A. as an effective public relations medium with the community, as a hard-working partner in the improvement of education, and as a stalwart ally in protecting the public schools.

• Now, what can P.T.A.'s do? What can you do, as a P.T.A. president, to foster constructive relationships with educators and members of school boards and committees?

1. Know the role of the P.T.A. in school education. Our part has been well

(Continued on page 2)



• Mrs. Newton P. Leonard and a group of educators examine a poster on the teaching of languages at a recent meeting called by the U.S. Office of Education. This was the Conference on the Role of Foreign Languages in American Schools, held January 15-16 in Washington, D. C. Mrs. Leonard's address, "Foreign Languages for the Young American," is published in the April issue of the "National Parent-Teacher Magazine." Standing from left to right are Arthur M. Selvi, J. L. McCaskill, Alonzo Grace, Earl J. McGrath, U.S. Commissioner of Education, A. B. Bonds, Jr., Mrs. Leonard, Harold Benjamin, and William R. Parker.



defined in the Action Program and in the national policies and guiding principles that are our safeguards against entanglements, blunders, and errors.

2. Be able to explain the P.T.A. program, policies, and aims. Some officials, for example, still have the erroneous idea that P.T.A.'s exist to buy things for the school. It is *not* the function of the P.T.A. to provide equipment that should be supplied from public funds.
3. Adhere strictly to the Congress policies of nonpartisanship and noninterference in the technical administration of the schools.
4. Invite school officials to become P.T.A. members.
5. Seek to understand the local situation and the administrators' problems. (Citizens' attendance at open meetings of the school board and participation in P.T.A. programs by school board members are among the ways to accomplish this.)
6. Make the P.T.A. meeting the place where the *facts* prevail and where school problems can be discussed *impersonally* and *objectively* by all who are concerned for their solution.

• Our talks with educators at these conventions revealed that, on the whole, P.T.A. relations with administrators are good. One high school principal, for example, asked, "How can I get a good, active P.T.A. going in my school? We

need one." Another administrator, looking at the membership chart in our exhibit at the A.A.S.A. convention, said, "I wonder if there is a correlation between the number of P.T.A. members in a state and the educational achievement of the state. Personally I think there is. Where there are active P.T.A.'s, we seem to have better education."

So you see you are doing a splendid job.

Now, let me urge you again to attend spring council and district meetings and state conventions, and to make every effort to go to the national convention. And before I close, let me speak briefly about our national headquarters.

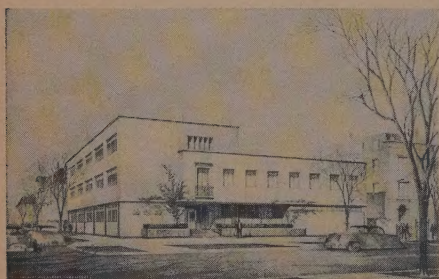
Our headquarters is our home. Every family wants a home, and our P.T.A. family has made progress toward owning one. We have bought our lot and we have broken ground. Now we must finish raising our building fund. Through a contribution to that fund, every member of the family can share the joy and pride of helping to build our home—a home that will be the center of the P.T.A. family's thinking, planning, and action in behalf of children and youth everywhere. Have you given every member of your P.T.A. an opportunity to contribute to our building fund?

Loyally yours,

*Lucille P. Leonard*

MRS. NEWTON P. LEONARD, *President*  
National Congress of Parents and Teachers

## FINAL PLAN FOR OUR



## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Our pledge to America's children and youth:

• We, your parents and teachers, are erecting this building so that we can be of still greater service to you. It is an expression of our love and concern for you, and it will remain forever a symbol of parent-teacher cooperation.

THE 7,219,165 MEMBERS OF  
THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF  
PARENTS AND TEACHERS

## NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS

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• These children from Cataula School (Georgia) are planting the first cherry seeds received in the state from Japan. The gift is a gesture of good will on the part of Japanese schoolchildren. Additional seeds are available to P.T.A.'s who write to William G. Hughes, Japan Travel Information Office, 10 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, N.Y.

## NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

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## EDITORIAL STAFF OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS

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# WHAT OUR CONGRESS PARENT-TEACHER GROUPS ARE DOING...

## And the Room Mothers Did!

Members of the North Bend (Oregon) Council were unduly modest about their U.S. savings stamps campaign until they heard from the state division of the national Treasury. Mrs. A. W. Presnall, council president, had written state officials for ideas on how to improve stamp sales to schoolchildren. When she mentioned that last year's sales amounted to four thousand dollars, Treasury officials wrote her eagerly for details of this outstanding "North Bend Plan"!

Randy Jenness, deputy director of the Oregon savings bond division, then visited North Bend to find out how the plan worked and help spread it to all the school systems in the state. The plan began last fall after a meeting of local school principals. They were debating how to arrange for sales of U.S. savings stamps in the schools when Mrs. Presnall asked, "Why not let the room mothers handle it?"

The principals greeted this offer with enthusiasm, and the council then voted to appropriate two hundred dollars for a revolving fund to keep the plan operating. The North Bend Lions Club spurred on the project by providing awards to the boys and girls buying the most stamps during the year and organizing a party for the leading classroom each month.

Two room mothers were on hand every Tuesday morning, supplied with stamps and change. A table was set up in the principal's office or hallway, and children were released one room at a time to purchase stamps. Many of the children bought stamps with money earned at odd jobs. Others used part of their allowance.

"The individual amounts saved were not large," says Mrs. Presnall, "but I feel that the program has demonstrated the importance of systematic saving by showing how a few nickels and dimes quickly grow into dollars."

## Books in Braille for Blind Children

West Portal P.T.A. in San Francisco is extending the frontiers of parent-teacher service. Three years ago, in surveying the needs of children in the community, the unit found that there was a dearth of books in Braille for the blind child. This need became the nucleus for a creative new project.

Across San Francisco Bay, in Berkeley, is the California School for the Blind. West Portal members visited the school and watched the children at their classwork. Inspired by this program, they decided to organize the first P.T.A.-sponsored Braille class in the city. A visually handicapped teacher, provided by the adult division of the board of education, led the sessions.

Soon the eager new Brailleists, having completed the course of study, were transcribing their first small books for children. They then learned a simple form of bookbinding adaptable to the family kitchen and bound all their small books. Larger books were professionally bound by the Berkeley chapter of the American Red Cross.

To date approximately two hundred books have been completed, as well as songs, poems, plays, and playing cards. Local schools and organizations for visually handicapped children are delighted to receive these materials.

Community interest in the West Portal project is reflected in the donations of Braille paper, binding materials, Braille typewriters, copyright privileges, monetary gifts to cover proofreading expenses, as well as the full cooperation of the local public library.

Mrs. Frank De Paolo, publicity chairman of the Second District in San Francisco, who reported this program to us, says, "West Portal's Braille class is now the largest in the city and has recently been divided into two classes, running two hours each. It has attracted women

from all over the city and from all walks of life—women who enjoy the enormous satisfaction of knowing that they have helped to bring a little light into the darkened world of blind youngsters."

## Good News from Alaska

North Star P.T.A. (Spenard, Alaska), true to its name, has a program to steer by—one other units might follow with profit. Fathers take a very active part in P.T.A. affairs, according to Mrs. Vincent Steers, local president; she tells of attending meetings of the Anchorage Council in which women were a minority!

The unit's hot lunch program, partially subsidized by the federal government, provides about 325 lunches a day. Movies are shown every Friday and Saturday by the association, since there is no theater in town. In addition, the unit sponsors a Cub Pack and has recently started a voluntary group accident insurance plan for children.

Meetings have attracted an overflow crowd, including many of the school faculty, who are interested and active. One of the unit's fall programs was recorded for broadcast over station KENI to receive community-wide attention.



• Mrs. Frank De Paolo, one of the founders of West Portal P.T.A.'s Braille class (San Francisco), is using a Braille slate as Mrs. Earl W. Long, present chairman of the class, looks on.

## DUES DEADLINES

Have the state and national portions of the all-inclusive dues of your association been sent to your state office? Check now with your council, district, or regional chairman for the dues deadline. Then make sure your remittance is in the mail well in advance of that date.



# WHAT OUR CONGRESS PARENT-TEACHER GROUPS — ARE DOING

## Seeing for Themselves

Eleven representatives from parent-teacher associations in the Adirondack District of New York State visited the United Nations and the Voice of America Studios in New York City recently. Arrangements for the trip were made by Mrs. Joel Salter, district chairman of citizenship and international relations.

After arriving in New York City the group toured the "Voice of America" that evening. They were at U.N. headquarters early next day and received tickets for the General Assembly meeting. While they waited for the session to start, they browsed in the U.N. gift shop.

"It was stimulating," a member of the group writes us, "to be actually sitting in on a meeting of delegates from sixty nations of the world and to watch and listen as they sought to foster peace, security, and the dignity of man among all peoples of the world. We heard delegates from India, Mexico, South Africa, Chile, England, Australia, and Russia express their views on the issue of racial segregation in South Africa.

"At a briefing session in the afternoon a delegate from Uruguay explained the work of the specialized agencies, such as UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) and WHO (World Health Organization). We learned, among other things, that through these agencies the lives of

55,000,000 children have been saved, 100,000,000 children vaccinated against tuberculosis, and 2,000 child experts sent to India alone.

"Our U.N. trip was thrilling, informative, and inspiring. Everyone who made the trip feels that she is actually a part of the U.N. She feels also an increased personal responsibility to help make the U.N. a success and has a deeper realization that within the U.N. lies our hope for peace."

To others wishing to make the trip the group offers the following suggestions: (1) Make reservations months in advance by writing to Chief, Non-Governmental Organizations, United Nations, N. Y. 17, N. Y. Specify that yours is a parent-teacher group. (2) Request a briefing session. (3) Make hotel reservations early. (4) Plan for the group to have dinner together the first evening in the city. Leave the second evening free for individual activities.

"P.T.A. groups," our correspondent concludes, "are most welcome at the U. N. Everyone there was very gracious. The trip was indeed worth the effort, time, and expense."

## A Community Builds a Gymnasium

The pioneers whose joint labors helped build a neighbor's cabin may be no more, but their spirit reappears surprisingly every now and then. Witness the P.T.A. members of Marling, Alabama; amateurs all, they succeeded in building a new gymnasium from the ground up and carrying off a prize for rural development as a result.

The impetus to all this activity was given by a group of businessmen in four small towns in the county. They organized a rural development program and offered awards for outstanding local projects.

In Marling the P.T.A. appointed a building committee to talk with the county board of education about building a new gymnasium. Although their unit at Asbury Junior High School was organized just three years ago, it has had a busy career sponsoring round-table discussions, producing a play, and making transcriptions for radio. The board liked their proposal and agreed to furnish materials if the community would build it.

"There was no boss; everyone just worked," said Mrs. Ada Kirby, second-grade teacher at Asbury Junior High School.



• Congratulations are in order for members of Arlington P.T.A. (Lexington, Kentucky), who more than tripled their enrollment in five months. Elizabeth Ison, the teacher who won the unit's award for the classroom with 100 per cent membership, points to its new high of 338 members. Mrs. Newton Davis, president, is second from the left.

The road commissioner hauled the steel for the framework and cement blocks. Hardwood floors, bleachers, indoor rest rooms and dressing rooms, and a large stage were installed at a cost of about \$40,000 (borne by the county).

The auditorium was divided into two large classrooms and a library. A rock wall round the yard was added and a hardwood floor installed in the office.

When the contest ended, Asbury P.T.A. in cooperation with the rural development program won third place, with a prize of one hundred dollars. That isn't the end of their activity by any means; plans are under way for winning of higher honors in next year's contest.

## A First-Aid Civil Defense Station

Oak Forest P.T.A. (Houston, Texas) is implementing the civil defense program by placing a first-aid station on every block in the community. First-aid classes began last January, with 133 persons volunteering to take part. Each home that serves as a station will be equipped with a first-aid kit and will be identified by a small sign outside. The unit has also offered to administer the identification tag program for school-children when it is approved by the school board in Houston.



• The U.S.S. Esteem, a new navy mine-sweeper, was launched this winter with the good wishes of a San Diego P.T.A. member. Mrs. Cathryn H. Davis of the Linda Vista P.T.A. christened the ship in a ceremony that featured the Boy Scouts of the San Diego area as sponsors. This was especially fitting, since Mrs. Davis is also den mother of Pack 70. She is shown on the right, beside Anthony C. Martinolich, builder, and Diane Davis, maid of honor.

Have you made your train and hotel reservations for the National Convention?





Field Staff: Ellen Dell Bieler • Dema Kennedy

Through Our Fieldglass is prepared from material gathered by members of the field staff "on location."

## Happy Ending

"Crinkle fender" is a dangerous version of the amusement park game in which midget autos careen around a track and crash bumpers. It's reckless driving at its worst, with teen-agers vying to dent each other's fenders in traffic. After a nearly tragic accident following a prom, citizens in a Midwestern community were justifiably alarmed. The school board was about to say, "No junior prom."

Then P.T.A. parents and junior sponsors got their heads together and worked out some safety measures. The prom could be held after all—and without the threat of wild post-prom driving.

When the dance closed at midnight fathers served as chauffeurs and drove couples to their homes to change from their formal dress to casual clothes. The teen-agers liked being driven in the family cars rather than having to use their own "jalopies." A program of entertainment was to follow.

The first event in the post-prom activities was a good movie in a near-by town. After the show the fathers drove the couples to the country club, where the mothers had prepared breakfast. This was served around five o'clock, and youngsters got home in time to catch a few hours' sleep before church attendance.

The post-prom events cost just a dollar a student. This plan meant a lot to most youngsters, especially those without cars, and did not perceptibly dampen the good spirits of those who had planned wild drives. They joined in the plan and enjoyed it as much as everyone else.

## "Doors of Opportunity"

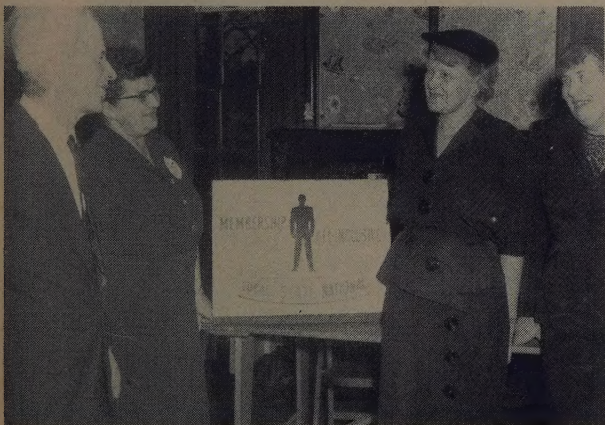
P.T.A. members in an Eastern city have abandoned the word "problems" when talking about teen-agers. Instead they've decided to look at their "opportunities," and in the very positiveness of this approach have reached a closer understanding with adolescents. The theme for the year's program is "Doors of Opportunity"—waiting to be opened for the benefit of the young people of the community. Each month an area related to youth's development is explored and related to the Action Program of the National Congress.

In the "Door to Understanding" a well-known judge revealed how adults can help meet the needs of youth. The "Door to Happy Living" examined the recreational facilities in the community, with special emphasis on opening the school gymnasium for student dances. "Doors Yet To Open" was a panel discussion by representative students of the young people's needs as seen by themselves.

## Highlighting the Action Program

The National Congress Action Program (published in the November *Bulletin*) held the spotlight at recent district conferences in a southwest state. P.T.A.'s were urged to examine local needs and to put into action the ideas set forth in the program that would help them solve local problems.

The morning session of one conference featured a panel on "Public Support for Public Schools," the theme of the state congress for 1952-53. A state superintendent of schools presented a complete picture of public school financing in the state. (Interpretation of educational finance to the general public by school board members or administrative officers is a recommendation of the Action Program, Part II, C-4.) A father who is a businessman stressed the individual's responsibility to support adequate salaries for teachers; and the cost of education per student was discussed by a school board member.



• Mrs. Ellen Dell Bieler (second from right), field worker, demonstrates a flip chart on parent-teacher membership at a recent Leadership Training Institute in Barre, Vermont. Shown from left to right are Leo Butler, president, East Orange P.T.A., Mrs. Ramon Lawrence, president of the Vermont Congress, Mrs. Bieler, and Mrs. Merlin Ward, first vice-president of the Vermont Congress.



• St. Cloud State Teachers College, Minnesota, was the scene of this interested discussion among Mrs. Frank Meyer, Mrs. T. M. Wallgren, state congress vice-president, Dema Kennedy, field worker, Fred Hennings, and Mrs. Roy Nording. It was part of a recent Leadership Training Institute conducted by Miss Kennedy.



## MAGAZINE MEMOS

● **The Gift of Tongues.** What can our familiarity with foreign languages mean for world peace? Far more than jet aviation and electronics, which shrink the world's boundaries but leave us mute or misunderstood among our new neighbors unless we speak their tongue. "Foreign Languages for the Young American" is Mrs. Newton P. Leonard's plea for early language instruction of our children. She delivered this address at the recent conference called by the U.S. Commissioner of Education on "The Role of Foreign Languages in American Schools."

● **Speaking up for the Schools.** Cartoonist Herblock captured the plight of America's overcrowded classrooms in a famous picture. A citizen is asking a little girl what grade she is in, and she answers, "I'm in the fourth grade, third shift, second layer." C.I.O. President Walter P. Reuther proposes a program of aid to the schools that would take the sting out of that cartoon. We can afford good schools, he says, without jeopardizing our defense mobilization. "Education in the Changing World," in the April issue of the *National Parent-Teacher*, is taken from his recent speech at the convention of the American Association of School Administrators.

● **"Who's Behind the Textbook Business?"** John W. Studebaker, chairman of the Committee on School Education, gives us a factual report in the April issue on those key people in education—the textbook publishers. It's the first of three articles on textbooks to be published in the *National Parent-Teacher*. The next two will describe how the books are written and present criteria for evaluating them. This is important information to have on hand when there's community discussion of what textbooks should be used in the schools.

● **Time Out for Learning.** That's what vacations offer your children—a chance to pursue their own interests, at their own pace, among their friends. Camping and traveling are exciting prospects for the summer, but not the only ones; there's lots of fun to be had in gardening, taking part in workshops, and joining in junior museum activities. Read Glenn O. Bough's article, "Vacations Are for Learning" in the April issue for some profitable ideas for your children's leisure next summer.

● **Conversation piece.** You'll find plenty to talk about in the regular features of the April issue. Take a look at William D. Boutwell's "What's Happening in Education?" for instance, or the comments on last month's condensation of "The Many Lives of Modern Woman" in the "Post Exchange." And if you're buying a birthday present or a shower gift for a friend, why not make it a subscription to the *National Parent-Teacher*? You'll be sharing ideas and interests together throughout the year.

NATIONAL *Convention...*

© Meyers

- Downtown Oklahoma City, showing the Civic Center Buildings in the foreground. The Municipal Auditorium, where the national convention will meet, can be seen in the background left.

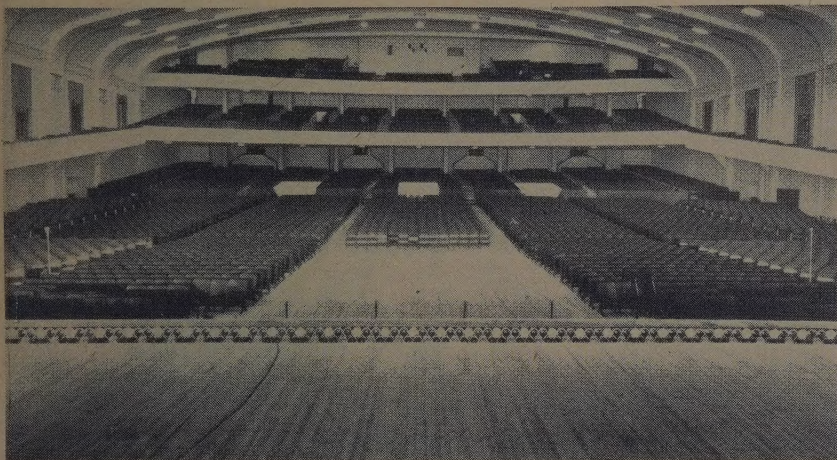


- The Ming Room at the Oklahoma Memorial Union, University of Oklahoma, will provide an Oriental setting for the National Board dinner on May 16. Filigree lanterns, green and ebony finishes, and specially designed furniture add to the beauty of the room, which is used by students, friends, and university guests.



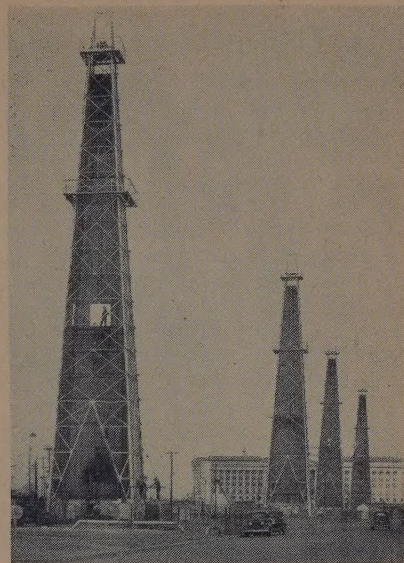
# ... Program Topics

## AND PLACES OF INTEREST



© Meyers

- The main hall of the Municipal Auditorium, Oklahoma City, can accommodate six thousand persons. Sessions will be held here May 18 to 20.



© Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce

- Oil wells sprout in today's Oklahoma City, a sign of the commerce that has helped make it prosperous. The city was settled in the famous "Run" of 1889, when Indian lands were opened up to the public by the government.

### SUNDAY—May 17, 1953

6:30 p.m.  
St. Paul's  
Cathedral

VESPER SERVICE, including a memorial to past national officers, state presidents, and national chairmen

#### ADDRESS

ABRAM L. SACHAR, President, Brandeis University,  
Waltham, Massachusetts

### MONDAY—May 18, 1953

GENERAL  
SESSION I  
9:30 a.m.  
Municipal  
Auditorium

#### GREETINGS

THE HONORABLE JOHNSTON MURRAY, Governor of  
Oklahoma  
DR. OLIVER HODGE, Superintendent of Public Instruc-  
tion of Oklahoma  
MRS. JOEL BURKITT, President, Oklahoma Congress of  
Parents and Teachers

#### RESPONSE

MRS. ROLLIN BROWN, First Vice-president

#### INTRODUCTION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS

#### PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

MRS. NEWTON P. LEONARD

SECTION  
MEETINGS  
2:00 p.m.  
to 4:00 p.m.

1. Tool Shop
2. Cultural Values
3. Cultural Relations
4. The People's Responsibility to Their Public Schools

6:00 p.m.  
Biltmore  
Hotel

#### DINNER: NATIONAL LIFE MEMBERS

GENERAL  
SESSION II  
8:00 p.m.  
Municipal  
Auditorium

Presiding: MRS. NEWTON P. LEONARD, President

#### INTRODUCTION OF STATE PRESIDENTS

#### ADDRESSES

G. F. BRUCE, President, Canadian Home and School  
and Parent-Teacher Federation  
SARA CALDWELL, President, National Education Asso-  
ciation

### TUESDAY—May 19, 1953

8:30 a.m.  
9:30 a.m.  
Municipal  
Auditorium

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

CONFERENCE: National "tool shop" chairmen meet  
state chairmen

GENERAL  
SESSION III

Presiding: MRS. NEWTON P. LEONARD, President  
INTRODUCTION OF NATIONAL CHAIRMEN

10:00 a.m.

#### MAGAZINE PRESENTATION

SECTION  
MEETINGS

1. Tool Shop
2. Growing Up in an Anxious Age
3. Conservation of Natural Resources

2:00 p.m.  
to 4:00 p.m.

GENERAL  
SESSION IV

#### BANQUET

6:45 p.m.  
Skirvin  
Hotel

#### ADDRESS

ERNEST WILLIAM MUEHL, Professor of Public Speaking,  
School of Divinity, Yale University

### WEDNESDAY—May 20, 1953

8:30 a.m.  
to 9:30 a.m.

CONFERENCE of "tool shop" chairmen with state  
chairmen

GENERAL  
SESSION V

Presiding: MRS. NEWTON P. LEONARD, President

10:00 a.m.  
Municipal  
Auditorium

#### ADDRESS

WILLIAM MENNINGER, M.D., Menninger Foundation

SECTION  
MEETINGS

#### PANEL DISCUSSION

1. Tool Shop
2. Parent-Teacher Relationships
3. Juvenile Protection

2:00 p.m.  
to 4:00 p.m.

Presiding: MRS. NEWTON P. LEONARD, President

GENERAL  
SESSION VI

ADDRESS: WILLIAM G. CARR, Executive Secretary, N.E.A.

8:00 p.m.  
Auditorium

#### INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS



## Hats Off to Headquarters!

Newest developments since the groundbreaking include a highly successful benefit for headquarters sponsored by the Reagan High School P.T.A. of Houston, Texas. Members put their heads together and came up with the idea for a hat show, the proceeds to go to the national building fund. Awards were given for the most outstanding, most original, most glamorous, largest, and smallest hats.

Students from Reagan Senior High School entertained, and a local radio announcer served as master of ceremonies. There were many fancy-free hat creations, among them a replica of a rodeo, complete with cowboys, bucking broncos, and cattle atop an old-fashioned straw hat. One member received an award for her "On to Chicago" bonnet featuring a number of filling stations along the route.

The proceeds, reflecting the general enthusiasm, amounted to eighty dollars, a sizable contribution to the national headquarters fund.

### Good Home Work!

Many states are renewing efforts to reach their chosen quotas or to complete as high a total of contributions as possible before the time of our national convention in May. To judge from the number of checks being received at the National Office, the following states have been particularly successful in reviving an interest in the headquarters fund:

Illinois  
Kentucky  
Nebraska  
New York

North Carolina  
Oklahoma  
Texas  
Wisconsin

### Good District Teamwork!

● NORTH CAROLINA is reaching its local units chiefly through the districts. The headquarters skit, *Together We Build*, which urges local units to share in building their national headquarters, was presented at each of the ten district conferences, and the district directors were asked to take the message back to their local units. Mailed directly to the local units were special headquarters kits with samples of the national awards (Merit and Honor) that are sent to P.T.A.'s whose headquarters contributions average fifteen cents or twenty-five cents a member.



### Hospitality Hint

"Hospitality—Better and More of It" is the motto of Mrs. Donovan S. Jones, state chairman of hospitality, writing in the *Massachusetts Parent-Teacher Bulletin*.

"It is hard to be a host and a cook at the same time," says Mrs. Jones. "There is no need of it at our P.T.A. meetings, as some members can 'smile who can't cook.'" Have both a hospitality and a refreshment committee on hand, she suggests.

The entrance to the meeting place should be well lighted, and the building opened early. Keep in touch with the membership chairman for newcomers, urges Mrs. Jones, and have a member of the hospitality committee call for them and introduce them at the meeting.

### The P.T.A. Is News

● Are you getting the news of your P.T.A. before the public? Are you developing an informed public opinion about parent-teacher work in your community? Do you know how to get news items about the P.T.A. into your local newspaper and broadcast over your local radio station?

Use the *Handbook on Parent-Teacher Publicity* to learn the techniques of good public relations. It tells you how to plan a publicity program, how to write a news story, how to prepare P.T.A. material for radio newscasts and programs.

Learn how to communicate P.T.A. news. It's good news and it's being made every day.

MRS. JAMES C. PARKER  
National Chairman,  
Committee on Congress Publications

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